FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

19 NOVEMBER 1985

Lebanon

Syrian Planes Shot Down — Israeli planes downed two Syrian planes during a dogfight that developed when Syrian planes attempted to intercept Israeli planes on a routine patrol over Lebanon 19 November, the IDF spokesman disclosed in a statement reported by IDF radio. The two MIG 23's fell inside Syrian territory, the radio said. Israeli Prime Minister Shim'on Peres viewed the affair as an "isolated incident" in remarks broadcast by the radio. A Syrian military spokesman cited by Damascus radio claimed that the dogfight occurred over Syrian territory, asserting that Syrian planes confronted two Israeli F-15's that had penetrated Syrian airspace, forcing them to withdraw. The spokesman did not acknowledge any Syrian losses.

Hostages — The archbishop of Canterbury's special envoy Terry Waite returned to Beirut to resume efforts to free the four U.S. hostages in Lebanon, MENA reported. In a communique cited by AFP, the Islamic Jihad group announced that one of its French hostages is "gravely ill" and warned the French Government not to drag its feet during "current negotiations" concerning the four kidnapped Frenchmen.

Israel

The emigration of Soviet Jews comes before the renewal of relations with the Soviet Union, Prime Minister Peres told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee in remarks reported by Jerusalem radio, adding that if the Soviet Union renews Jewish emigration, Israel will lift its opposition to the Soviet Union's incorporation in the peace process. In another comment on the Geneva summit, Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin warned that a U.S.-Soviet agreement on a peace conference will foil future peace accords and will undermine what has already been achieved, the radio noted.

Iran-Iraq War

An Iranian military spokesman cited by IRNA denied Iraq's claim that an F-5 was shot down over Iraq 18 November and maintained that Iranian planes inflicted "substantial" damage in the raid on military and industrial targets in Maysan.

Iran

A Foreign Ministry spokesman condemned any U.S.-USSR summit discussion on the fate of Third World countries, describing the Geneva talks as "explicit interference" in other countries' internal affairs, IRNA reported.

Gulf Affairs

A Bahraini Foreign Ministry "senior source" told the Kuwaiti daily *AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM* that the establishment of Bahraini-USSR relations is "not under consideration, at least for the time being."

Libyan Relations With Algeria, Iran

Libyan officials Major al-Khuwayldi al-Humaydi and 'Ali 'Abd al-Salam al-Turayki arrived in Algiers 18 November carrying a message from Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid, Algiers radio reported. In Tripoli, Staff Major 'Abd al-Salam Ahmad Jallud received Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, according to Tripoli radio.

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Government Issues Statement on April Revolution

LD180150 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari
1600 GMT 13 Nov 85

[DRA Revolutionary Council statement on "The National Democratic Characteristics of the 1 April Revolution" dated 13 November, Kabul]

[Text] An extraordinary and enlarged session of the DRA Revolutionary Council attended by the state leadership, party activists, the Armed Forces, the Central Council of the National Fatherland Front [NFF], and the DRA social organizations has unanimously approved the fundamental theses of Babrak Karmal, general secretary of the PDPA Central Committee and president of the DRA Revolutionary Council concerning the national and democratic characteristics of the April Revolution and its immediate tasks in the present circumstances.

The statement of Comrade Babrak Karmal was enthusiastically welcomed by the broad masses of all strata and social circles of the people. Workers, peasants, intellectuals, students, Army staff, artisans, patriotic spirituals, nationals, trade and industrial entrepreneurs and other national democratic strata, all people, nationalities, tribes and clans of the country in the course of meetings and gatherings, in the pages of dailies, through radio and TV and in their innumerable letters are expressing the patriotic inclination to take an active part in the realization of the articles in these theses.

As the high organ of state sovereignty, the Revolutionary Council of the DRA officially states complete approval of and support for the theses of Comrade Babrak Karmal, and deemed it appropriate to issue the following statement addressed to the Afghan people and the peoples and nations of the world.

On 27 April 1978 (?there took place) the armed uprising of the people of Afghanistan, with the participation of soldiers and patriotic officers of the country, under the leadership of the PDPA. Thus the antifeudal and anti-imperialist process of the national and democratic revolution was begun, and a new national and historic horizon was opened before our people.

The April Revolution took place in the national interest, to secure the interests of the broad masses of the people and to realize those objectives and aspirations for which patriots, lovers of freedom, national and progressive forces and genuine democrats had been struggling devotedly for many years.

The toiling and noble people of Afghanistan, all patriots, all nationalities, tribes and clans of the country welcomed and supported their revolution with fervor and enthusiasm. The young working class and the broad masses of peasants in unity form the political base of the new society which guarantees the interests of the other patriotic sections of the people.

The revolution inflicted a crushing blow on all forms of oppression — national and social oppression — usury and the feudal bureaucratic regimes which have been the cause of our people's adversity and oppression for centuries. The broad revolutionary masses, with profound respect for and strict observance of historical, cultural and religious customs and traditions, created a new type of state — that is, the DRA — which considers the following tasks as the general national duties: defense of the country's independence, national sovereignty and territorial integrity; further consolidation of the gains of the April Revolution and the attainment of its objectives and aspirations; ensuring the broad participation of the workers and all progressive forces of the country in the antifeudal and anti-imperialist transformations of the national democratic revolution and the transformation of Afghanistan into a blossoming and developing country.

During the 7 years and few months since the victory of the revolution, our country has achieved significant successes. Social and economic transformations, including the land and water reform, are being carried out in the DRA. The people's national economy and culture are being developed and the democratization process of social and political life and the broadening and expansion of the people's rights and democratic freedoms are continuing in the country.

The revolution declared the equality of all nationalities, tribes and clans of the country and equal rights for all citizens, without any discrimination or inclination and regardless of their social position, nationality, tribe, clan, sex and religious sects, including the Sunni and Shi'ite sects and other sects; this is being carried out in practice. The DRA Revolutionary Council, in accordance with the main principles of their PDPA and the true conditions of national relations, culture and traditions of the country's people, specifies and defines new civilian participation on the national level in the interest of consolidating our united state, the new, independent and revolutionary Afghanistan.

The DRA honestly respects the sacred religion of Islam, observes and supports it. Our country's international position has been consolidated, its role in the Nonaligned Movement has become more active and its relations with progressive states further expanded. All these transformations are being implemented in the conditions of armed intervention by international imperialism and its mercenary agents in the internal affairs of the DRA. In such a situation and circumstances the DRA is obliged to carry out a serious struggle against the forces of internal counterrevolution and those forces imposed from abroad.

The convocation of the Grand Assembly, the High Assembly of the tribes and the successful start of the elections to the local organs of state power and administration manifest the people's fervent support for and approval of the domestic and foreign policy of the party and state and the process of revolutionary transformations in Afghanistan.

However, the enemies of the Afghan revolution are resorting to the most disgraceful plots and conspiracies in order to create obstacles on the path of the country's development toward the implementation of revolutionary transformations, democracy, social progress and the construction of a new, democratic society.

They strive to make unfair, untrue and fabricated remarks about our revolution and spread spiritual stagnation and moral corruption which run counter to the demands and noble objectives of the revolution. Imperialism does not want to accept the reality of our revolution, and by ignoring the will of the independent Afghan people, vainly strives to deprive the people of the right to

choose the path of development and social progress, and threatens and violates its security.

The Revolutionary Council points out that the path for the development of the revolution in our country is not an even one. It is a long and difficult process which is advancing stage by stage. The complications present in the democratization process of sociopolitical life and in the realization of important socioeconomic transformations in the country are not solely the result of backwardness, past problems and the difficulties of the struggle against the forces of internal and external counterrevolution, but mistakes, deviations and serious errors also played a tragic and disastrous role in this regard. The criminal actions of Hafizollah Amin and his band inflicted serious and very painful damage on the cause of our country's national democratic revolution. Experience proves that there is no other humane and patriotic way to save our people from centuries-old backwardness except the realization of the principles of freedom, democracy and social progress.

However, the realization of these principles has never been and never will be easy. It should be recognized that in present conditions the growth and development of the national democratic revolution in Afghanistan is objectively a long and difficult historic phase. This stems primarily from the fact that the new democratic regime in Afghanistan has inherited from past regimes a backward economy, illiteracy, obscurantism, poverty, hunger, unemployment, disease, the social backwardness of the overall majority of people, backward feudal and medieval social relations, dispersal of democratic forces and national division. Therefore, the attainment of material and spiritual progress in our country requires long, consistent and patient work.

As a result of heroic efforts by the toilers, the realization of the program and requirements of the national democratic revolution is continuing in our country. This revolution conforms with the interests of the absolute majority of our people. Therefore, all patriots who believe in the noble aspirations of the revolution have the right and obligation to take part in the constructions of a new and democratic Afghanistan.

Leftist-extremist deviations stemming from a subjective, dogmatic and voluntaristic approach or from neglecting the crystal-clear realities of our country should not be allowed to emerge in the process of our country's revolution, which would cause an adventuristic attitude or the infantile disorder of glossing over the national democratic character of our revolution. Our main aim is to establish such condtitions throughout the country in which all the country's national questions can be solved in a humanitarian, democratic and free atmosphere, through trust, cooperation, harmony, fraternity and equality, in a peaceful way and on the basis of the principle of national interests and national reconciliation, without resorting to arms.

The Revolutionary Council believes that the essence of state rule in the DRA stems from the national and democratic character of our revolution. This rule considers the right of broad participation by all true patriots, representatives of all the country's social strata and groups, including workers, peasants, medium-sized landowners, artisans, intellectuals, Armed Forces personnel from ordinary private to general, private investors, national commercial and traditional capitalists, spiritual leaders and credible social personalities of all nationalities, tribes and clans — in other words, the representatives of all the people of Afghanistan — in all state organs and in the administration of the state affairs as well as in politico-economic, social and cultural activity. The DRA Revolutionary Council guarantees this right.

The revolutionary state relies on traditional assembly democracy and supports a traditional form of self-rule. If foreign reactionary, imperialist interference and armed struggle had not been imposed on our people, elected state organs would have been created at all levels in our country long before now. To hold such democratic and free elections was and is our major task.

Fundamental measures are taken in order to broaden the social pillars in creating a new and just society and to absorb all political allies belonging to various sections of our society into all organs of state power and administration. For this purpose the PDPA, the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Government deemed it necessary that a new approach should be maintained regarding the expansion of the social pillars of the people's rule. The fundamental points of the new approach are as follows:

Readiness for broad, nationwide cooperation on the basis of the interests of all the people and national interests;

The broadening of the composition of the leading organs of the state, that is, the Revolutionary Council and the DRA Council of Ministers, to include the credible representatives of the people who would reflect the interests of various sections and groups in our society;

The broadening of contacts, talks and understanding with the elements who up to now have subconsciously assumed a hostile position against the revolution or who have repented their antinational and counterrevolutionary actions;

Principled and possible compromise for national accord and principled and flexible compromise in line with the country's national interests, nationwide peace and the homeland's security.

We invite all compatriots and true patriots of free and independent Afghanistan to take an active part in the historic renewal of the country's national resurgence and the future prosperity of their children. The folds of the motherland are open to all Afghan compatriots who are living outside the country, without prejudice or distinction and with their human dignity, warmth and complete security safeguarded, for the advancement of independent, democratic and new Afghanistan.

The DRA Revolutonary Council in the future, too, will consistently pay attention to the still broader involvement of the country's workers in the construction of a new society and in conducting state affairs, the improvement of their material well-being, the improvement of the conditions of work and the life of workers and staff and ensuring the possibilities for the building of dwellings.

The just solution of the land and water question in the DRA in the interests of the peasants, with account taken of the peculiar-

ities and the lawful and legitimate interests of other allied classes of peasants, medium-sized landowners and fruit growers, private property rights over land and livestock, the involvement of all peasants in the current process of land reform, the extending of comprehensive assistance to peasants through loans, seeds and fertilizers, their maintenance from the viewpoint of the provision of primary goods, assisting them in the formation of their cooperatives on a completely voluntary basis and the enhancement of the culture of the tens of millions of the country's peasant masses, with account taken of local characteristics and peculiarities, are all matters of great interest.

The state pledges that the growth of agriculture and production bringing infertile land under cultivation in the formation of state farms for the purpose of improving the supply of primary consumer goods to the people and raw material for industries, and the expansion of cultivation using irrigation with state-held farms should be maintained.

The Revolutionary Council draws attention to the fact that the policy of encouragement and support for private sector initiative in connection with increasing consumer agricultural products, the legalization of the creation of farms and large mechanized agricultural complexes in virgin and infertile lands and in those lands which cannot presently be used, is a principled policy for us in accordance with the conditions of the national democratic revolution. The preservation and supervision of water resources is the general duty of the people.

The policy of our national democratic state has never been to the detriment of the interests of the private national sector, which plays an important role in the economic life of the country. On the contrary, our aim is to maintain reliable and sincere cooperation between the state and private investors. We intend to expand the necessary economic and legal pillars toward the arrangement of mutually beneficial relations between the national entrepreneurs and the state, within the framework of the mixed sector as well as on the basis of individual cooperation. The state helps investors in the private and mixed sectors in competition with foreign interests and defends them. It helps to maintain practical opportunities for the national capitalist circles in representing themselves and in defending their interests in the state and in the NFF.

The rights and authority of the Economic Advisory Council and the role of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the economic life of the country will be broadened and enhanced. The volume of the country's industrial output through the speedy growth of the state and mixed sectors, the encouraging of the establishment of cooperative institutions and rendering of assistance to private investors and the units of artisans will be consistently increased.

The necessary opportunities and possibilities will be made available for private national capitalists toward the creation of light industries and foodstuff establishments, to enable them to form small and medium-sized establishments which can quickly recoup the costs of their opening. The private sector interests in transportation industries, services and trade will be taken into consideration in the state's financial, taxation, credit, customs and pricing policy.

The DRA Revolutionary Council attaches great value to the great role of the proud personalities of science, culture and art; teachers, lecturers, doctors, engineers, architects and specialists in various fields of work; state officials and staff and intellectuals. The state will enhance the role of intellectuals and society, and will help them in accomplishing cultural work and the acceleration of the enhancement of the creative union's work. No one has the right to block the way of the creation of other organizations which manifest the interests of the intellectuals.

National jihad and struggle against illiteracy in particular among young people will be intensified. The slogan of the new society is that whatever is the best should be at the service of our children. The country's younger generation enjoys whatever is necessary for successful training and education and for physical and cultural training, and whatever provides the ground for the training of true patriots in them.

Further attention will be paid to the protection of schools, mosques, hospitals, nurseries, theology schools and other sacred places as well as construction of new institutions. Further attention and supervision will be paid to the families of the martyrs. The Revolutionary Council intends to issue special decrees in these respects.

The Revolutionary Council guarantees and tries in practice to ensure that all nationalities, tribes and fraternal clans residing in our common country, the new and democratic Afghanistan, enjoy not only equality of rights, fraternity and friendship, but practical equality in economic life and the growth of their ancient cultures, including education in their mother language. In order to achieve this aim, the growth and further development of the localities of national minorities and border tribes who are socially backward should be maintained and foundations should be provided for the just representation of all tribes and clans in the state, social, central and local authorities and in the NFF.

Regarding the tribes, as usual the policy of trust, peace and cooperation will be pursued. The Revolutionary Council is confident that at the present complicated time these tribes more than ever before will take part in state affairs and primarily in defending the homeland against the aggression of the forces of imperialist reaction and those linked with imperialism. The DRA respects the traditional custom of assembly, which is a form of traditional, free self-rule of the tribes. The state believes that these assemblies will actively cooperate with the local state organs and social organizations.

In respect for and observation of the traditional life of the free tribes, the DRA will utilize all possibilities to render the necessary fraternal socioeconomic and cultural assistance to the border Pashtun and Baluch tribes.

The DRA Revolutionary Council consistently and seriously strives toward the consolidation of the NFF and the expansion of its democratic rights and authority so as to draw in to work and struggle for this purpose all those who have the sincere wish to participate in the construction of the new Afghanistan and who respect the laws, customs and traditions of our people. Likewise, other social and mass organizations such as trade unions, democratic organizations of young people and women of Afghanistan,

and unions of creative intelligentsia require further improvement and development.

There is no obstacle to the establishment of other such organizations and social and political groups, provided that they do not run contrary to the objectives of the April Revolution, are prepared to cooperate with the NFF and the organs of the people's power and help with the government's general aims of synchronizing the needs and interests of various sections and classes of the people, and do not struggle against the national and democratic regime. If so, a relationship will be established with them as allies.

The Revolutionary Council once again affirms and reiterates that the basic principle of the DRA and practical deeds of the revolutionary sovereignty guarantees respect and support for the sacred religion of Islam and ensures complete freedom for performing religious rites.

The state will assist and help the ulema and Islamic religious leaders in their patriotic activity and will pay specific attention to mosques and religious places, the financial position of the religious leaders, the training of young religious leaders, and convocation of Islamic conferences in the country.

No one should be allowed to abuse the sacred religion of Islam for sinister motives, in the interests of Afghanistan's enemies, colonialists, imperialists and their mercenary servants, and against the interests of the toiling, noble, free and Muslim people of Afghanistan.

The Revolutionary Council points out that revolutionary Afghanistan not only has friends, but also enemies. International imperialism and the forces of reaction of the region have imposed an undeclared war on revolutionary Afghanistan, and in conducting it, have launched a broad battlefield of lies and fabrications against our country. An armed struggle has been imposed on us.

The DRA, in order to defend the sovereignty of the state, territorial integrity and the national independence of Afghanistan, was forced to demand the necessary help of the Soviet Union, the honest and traditional friend of the Afghans, in accordance with the norms of international law and the UN Charter. This help was given in time. Our government emphasizes and mentions once more that immediately after foreign armed intervention in the affairs of our country ceases and its nonrecurrence has satisfactorily been guaranteed, the limited contingents of Soviet forces will leave Afghanistan.

The DRA Revolutionary Council together with the PDPA Central Committee and the DRA Government will work to create a united and complex system of defense consisting of the military, the Sarandoy, KHAD [State Information Services], revolutionary defense groups, militia, revolutionary guards, self-defense groups, various tribal units, and so forth. Each patriotic Afghan must strive for the all-round consolidation and strengthening of the heroic and liberating Armed Forces of our country and the enhancement of their combat readiness, so that our Armed Forces will be able independently to fulfill their sacred debt in safeguarding the state's territorial integrity, the homeland's national sovereignty, national independence, and the defense of the revolution vis-a-vis the homeland and people. The consolidation of the defense capability of the homeland and progress toward unity and national cohesion are a decisive factor in preventing foreign armed intervention.

The Revolutionary Council declares that the aim of the DRA's foreign policy is the consolidation of peace for all and the expansion of all-round international cooperation. Our activity in the sphere of foreign policy is based on the principles of observing the UN Charter, peaceful coexistence, the easing of tension, peace and mutually beneficial friendship with all countries of the world, the policy of active and positive nonalignment and the consolidation of friendly relations with nonaligned countries and all Islamic states and nations, and in particular the neighboring countries.

The DRA state, with a feeling of responsibility before its people and history, sincerely desires a peaceful solution to the situation around Afghanistan.

Our traditional friendship with the Soviet Union has successfully passed the test of time and has become a valuable treasure of the peoples of both our countries.

The PDPA is self-sacrificingly fulfilling its vanguard role in the process of the revolution.

The party constitutes the guiding and organizing energy of our society and is the indicator of the fundamental state and national interests of the people of Afghanistan.

The party members do not have any other privilege but that of struggle in the front ranks of self-sacrificing fighters on the path of progress and prosperity for the people of the homeland and the construction of a new and democratic Afghanistan.

The PDPA does not impose its ideology and views on anyone and respects the beliefs of all patriots and democratic forces.

The party's relations with all patriotic strata of the people and social organizations of the country and all its allies are based on the principles of compatriotism, mutual respect and constructive cooperation, trust and sincerity.

In this critical time of our history, the Afghan people clearly realize that in order to carry out the aspirations and the lofty aims of the national democratic April Revolution, the unity, solidarity and cooperation of all Afghans and all national and patriotic, democratic and progressive forces of the country are as necessary as air is for humans to breathe.

The Revolutionary Council calls: Esteemed compatriots, brothers and sisters, we all forge ahead together for revolutionary work and struggle.

Afghans have a single heart, that is to say a common homeland.

Forward actively for the historic reconstruction of Afghanistan. The revolution continues and we will be victorious.

[Signed] Revolutionary Council

Security Forces Report Numerous Successes

LD181923 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto
1730 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] A BAKHTAR correspondent quoting a responsible source in the security forces reports that with the cooperation of the mobile people of Arghandeh-ye Bala, Paghman District, and as a result of successful operations by the security forces, the following contraband was seized: 18 surface-to-surface rockets, (?120) hand grenades, 6 mines, 3 antipersonnel [word indistinct], 1 DShK, (?2) Chinese Kalashnikovs, 303 [word indistinct], 362 mortar shells, 320 rocket launcher shells, 110 (?boxes) of DShK rounds of ammunition, 24 (?boxes) of Kalashnikov rounds of ammunition, 18 (?kilos) of explosive susbtances, 29 recoilless rifle shells, 24 American-made antitank mines, 2,000 rounds of various types of ammunition, 3 [word indistinct], 1 surface-to-surface rocket launcher instrument, 12 (?bags) of a Chinese-made poisonous chemical substance.

Also as a result of these operations, (?one) box of documents belonging to the Etahad-e Islamic bands, along with antistate propaganda which proves the link of mercenary and traitorous bands to forces outside the country, and also hideouts of the enemy have been destroyed.

According to another report, as result of successful operations by the security forces in Ghazni Province, three counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and 1 DShK, 1 machine gun, 6 rocket launchers, 40 rounds of light weapons, 1,000 rounds of DShK ammunition, 5,000 rounds of heavy machine gun ammunition, 1,000 rounds of various ammunition, 300 antitank mines, 150 hand grenades, 35 shells of rocket launchers, 55 recoilless rifle shells, and 4 boxes of explosive substances have been seized.

Another report says that as a result of a successful operation by the security forces in the villages of Sar Kand Ow Baba Ziarat, Dah Rab and (Askander) of Nangarhar Province, a number of counterrevolutionary elements were crushed and 1 ZK-1, 12 DShK's, 2 mortars, 1 rocket launcher, 22 various weapons, (?104) recoilless rifle shells, 59 rocket shells, 16,500 rounds of various ammunition, 50 kg of explosive substance, 19 antitank mines, 21 hand grenades, 2 antiaircraft rocket systems and 2 depots of foodstuff and (?clothes) were seized; during these operations a DShK was destroyed.

According to another report from Ghow District, Herat Province, a number of armed men were crushed and one Chinese machine gun along with 45 rounds for various weapons came into the hands of the country's security forces.

Ziaul Haq Holds Talks With Rajiv Gandhi in Oman

BK181531 Karachi Domestic Service in Urdu 1510 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] President Mohammad Ziaul Haq and Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi met each other for half an hour in Muscat today. The Pakistan president and the Indian prime minister, talking to newsmen later, described the talks as extremely good. The president said the meeting was held in a very friendly and good atmosphere, like those of the last three meetings. He believed that the meeting will contribute to improving relations between India and Pakistan. He expressed the hope that the Indian prime minister will play the role expected of him in this connection. When asked about the talks, the president said all those points were covered in the talks which either will or will not help improve the relations between the two countries. He referred to the Pakistan finance minister's recent visit to India and his talks on improving India-Pakistan trade relations, and hoped that Dr Mahbubul Haq's visit will help improve trade ties between the two countries.

President Mohammad Ziaul Haq said that his next meeting with the Indian prime minister will be held in Dhaka during the summit meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation [on 7-8 December]. The president said Mr Rajiv Gandhi has invited him to visit India and, if time permits, he will indeed make this visit during his return trip from Dhaka.

The president was assisted during the talks by the minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Zain Noorani, while the Indian foreign secretary, Mr Romesh Bhandari, assisted the Indian prime minister.

Mr Rajiv Gandhi told newsmen that during his talks with the Pakistani president, bilateral issues were considered and areas of cooperation between the two countries were identified. He added that our talks were very good. Asked about the process of normalization of bilateral relations, he said the trend toward normalization existed. When asked about Pakistan's proposal of a no-war pact and India's proposal of a friendship treaty, Mr Rajiv Gandhi said we are continuing negotiations on both proposals.

Meets Other World Leaders

For reportage on the visit to Oman by President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, including his discussion on nuclear policy with FRG Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and his meetings with Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, Jordan's King Husayn, and PRC Vice Premier Yao Yilin, see the Oman subsection of the Arab Peninsula section in the 18 November Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Police Arrest 50 in Karachi Transport Strike

NC181838 Paris AFP in English 1833 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Karachi, Nov 18 (AFP) — Police arrested about 50 people today for stoning vehicles which ran the gauntlet of a transport strike call as Karachi virtually ground to a halt.

Most public transport, including taxis and motor rickshaws, kept off the roads, preventing most people from reaching work in this south coast city.

Eighteen transport organisations called the strike to protest a murder charge brought by police against a truck driver, accused of having deliberately crushed a policeman to death.

The national highway linking Karachi with the north of the country and the Karachi-Hyderabad motorway were blocked by striking transport workers.

5 Iranian Communists Arrested in Mirpur Khas

GF181506 Lahore NAWA-E WAQT in Urdu 14 Nov 85 p 8

[By the staff correspondent]

[Text] Sukkur — The Sind Police have arrested five foreigners who have links with an international communist organization and documents and letters pertaining to a foreign embassy have been seized which have revealed that the five persons arrested are Iranian nationals and members of the Iranian "Khalq" [Feda'iyan-e Khalq] Communist Party.

They were found to possess currency of the United States, Israel, Japan, Germany, Saudi Arabia, Great Britain, and Kuwait. They also carried British identity cards.

The five persons were arrested as they planned their escape in a hotel in Mirpur Khas. They were preparing to enter India illegally via Umarkot and Khokhropar.

The police officials arrested them due to their suspicious behavior. Their names are reported to be Ahmad Ibn Hasan, Gholam Mahmud Ibn Mohammad, Faruq Ibn Gholam Mohammad, Amin, and Abdolrahman.

It has transpired that this gang had been involved in subversive activities for the past 5 years and had wanted to go to India from Pakistan illegally. They have been arrested under Section 14 of the Foreigners' Act and have been transferred to an investigation cell in Hyderabad. Despite being handcuffed, they attacked a Hyderabad correspondent when he tried to photograph them. He nonetheless managed to get a photograph.

BANGLADESH

Trade Agreement, Protocol Signed With Bulgaria

BK181617 Dhaka Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Bangladesh and Bulgaria signed a long-term trade agreement and barter protocol in Dhaka today. Commerce Secretary A.B.M. Ghulam Mustafa and First Deputy Minister of Foreign Trade of Bulgaria Georgi N. Vutev signed the documents. The long-term trade agreement provides for each-way exchange of commodities worth 175 to 200 million U.S. dollars during the next 5 years. The agreement stipulates diversification and expansion of trade between the two countries on a balanced basis. It provides for trade in convertible currencies as well as barter trade.

The agreement further stipulates, inter alia, that the two countries will grant each other the most favored nation treatement in matters relating to shipping, customs, duties and other taxes. Under the agreement Bangladesh will export jute products, tea, ready-made garments and other nontraditional items, and import pig iron, raw cotton, machinery, fertilizers and other items.

The visiting Bulgarian first deputy minister, Mr Georgi N. Vutev, held talks with the commerce minister, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, in Dhaka today. The commerce minister expressed satisfaction at the progress of trade talks between the two countries. He also expressed happiness on the growth of trade between the two countries.

The Bulgarian deputy minister stated that his country is very keen to expand and diversify trade relations with Bangladesh. He said to this effect Bulgaria would give greater emphasis on the import of nontraditional items and manufactured goods from that country. He said a delegation from the Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry would come to Bangladesh to establish direct contact with our business leaders.

INDIA

'Arafat Arrives for 3-Day Visit 18 Nov

BK181609 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] The chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organization, Mr Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in New Delhi this evening on a 3-day visit to India. He was received at the airport, among others, by the external affairs minister, Mr Bali Ram Bhagat, and diplomats of the Arab countries.

Mr 'Arafat is in the capital to address the nonaligned youth conference organized by the Indian Youth Congress-I. He will hold talks with the prime minister, Mr Rajiv Gandhi, on the latest developments in West Asia and other matters.

Mr 'Arafat will also call on the president, Giani Zail Singh. The external affairs minsiter is hosting a dinner in his honor tonight.

Gandhi Visits Oman, Meets Pakistani President

For Delhi and ONA coverage of the visit to Oman by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, including his meeting with Pakistani President Mohammad Ziaul Haq, see the Oman subsection of the Arab Peninsula section of the 18 November Middle East & Africa *DAILY REPORT* and subsequent issues.

Parliament Urges U.S-Soviet Nuclear Agreement

BK181401 Delhi General Overseas Service in English
1330 GMT 18 Nov 85

Text] The lower house of parliament urged both the United States and the Soviet Union to reach an agreement on substantial reduction of nuclear warheads and declare a moratorium on testing ofnuclear weapons. In a resolution unanimously adopted the house wanted both the superpowers to reach an accord not to extend the arms race into outer space, which belongs to the entire mankind.

Egyptian Commission Meeting Commences 18 Nov

BK181618 Delhi Domestic Service in English
1530 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] The India-Egypt Joint Commission began its first session in New Delhi today. The Indian side is led by the commerce minister, Mr Arjun Singh, and the Egyptian delegation by the deputy minister, Dr Kamal al-Ganzouri, who is also the minister for planning and international cooperation.

Describing the event as an important landmark in the historical and friendly relations between India and Egypt, Mr Arjun Singh said the present level of trade between the two countries did not reflect the vast potential for economic cooperation. He said that India is willing to share its expertise in agriculture, animal science, soil and water resources, fertilizers, and fish farming in arid desert areas with Egypt.

Fire Exchanged With Pakistani Troops in Kashmir

HK190453 Hong Kong Commercial Radio in English
0430 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Indian and Pakistani troops are reported to have again clashed along the disputed border in the Himalayan region of Kashmir.

The PRESS TRUST OF INDIA says the Pakistanis opened fire near the town of Poonch and Indian forces returned the fire, but no casualties have been reported.

Pakistan is said to be carrying out military excercises in the area, and cancelled all leave by soldiers. The two countries have fought three wars since 1947 and have been trying to improve their strained relations.

President Ziaul Haq is due to visit New Delhi next month for talks with the Indian prime minister, Rajiv Gandhi.

SRI LANKA

Jayewardene on Military Solution of Ethnic Problem

BK190332 Delhi Domestic Service in English
0240 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] The Sri Lankan president, Mr Jayewardene, has said that the ethnic problem can be solved through military efforts. He however underlined that solving the problem in such a manner is not desirable at the present stage. In an hour-long interview with the BCC, Mr Jayewardene said the violence in the northern and eastern parts of the island can be brought under control soon but he preferred a political solution. This is the first time that President Jayewardene has spoken of a military solution to the ethnic problem. During the interview, he apreciated the prime minister Mr Rajiv Gandhi's efforts to resolve the crisis.

Meanwhile, the secretary general of the Tamil United Liberation Front, Mr Amirthalingam, has said that the Sri Lanka Government has not made any substantial move to solve the ethnic problem in the island.

Tamils March To Protest 'Terrorist Activity'

BK191113 Colombo International Service in English
1030 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] About 3,000 Tamils have staged a march in the Tricomalee District to protest against Tamil terrorists, while Tamils in Vavuniya closed their shops and put up antiterrorist posters. The Tricomalee march yesterday was in protest at increasing terrorist activity in the area.

In a similar protest in Vavuniya yesterday, shops were closed and posters were displayed with slogans such as Terrorists kill innocent people, and Are these the principles of Tamil Eelam?

Terrorists have recently taken control of some areas north and south of Tricomalee, killing a number of soldiers in landmine attacks and staging attacks on Sinhala villages in which a number of civilians have been killed.

On Sunday, local residents protested against Tamil terrorists, who had buried a mine on a road at Mullaittivu planning to blow up security vehicles. After the protest, the militants blew up the mine and withdrew.

Meanwhile, residents in Jaffna said that people there had demonstrated against a number of burglaries believed to be the work of terrorists running short of funds.

Several robberies involving theft of gold, jewelry, and cash had been reported to the Jaffna police.

Musavi Interviewed on Domestic, Regional Issues

GF190854 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Interview with Prime Minister Mir-Hoseyn Musavi-Khamene'i by unidentified Tehran Radio correspondent — recorded; date, place not given]

[Text] [Correspondent] Mr Prime Minister, some present problems in the society, like the economic sickness, housing, or the problems created by the war are quite natural. However, with regard to these problems the government, imam, officials, and people have some expectations. Although these expectations are reciprocal, what do you think about them and what plans do you have regarding them? Moreover, what will the people be expected to do?

[Musavi] Your question has two parts: The duties of the government and the duties of the people. I may say the duties of the government are the same as those of the people. Governmental duties stem from the aspirations of the people. The people have expectations and these expectations are natural. However, the people should consider their expectations within the capabilities of a state at war and existing in a state of revolution. In fact, their expectations do conform to conditions. The reason for the unstinted support of our hezbollahi nation for the government is also because they are given the facts and they can see the great efforts all executive cadres have been making. I believe that the present government is also doing the same. We have submitted several programs to the Majlis and we also plan to submit more special and comprehensive ones to the people. It is hoped decisions will be made soon.

We will also submit the problems and issues to the people and we will say that the work of the executive branch may also be exposed to the people's judgment and criticism. We are confident that in turn the people will also, as far as they can, (?help) the executive officials, who are their sons, their relatives, and their servants. The goal I can promise is this: A sincere and genuine effort will be made through the executive branch to solve the problems facing the country. It is natural that when our nation sees that all efforts are made to tackle the work, and the people also support the government line, they must expect results within the capacity of our state. The reason that government policies have already won the love of the people for services rendered to them is because government policy serves all sectors of the nation and also tries to serve the not so fortunate parts of the country. These policies aim at improving the national economy in general.

There are efforts to preserve our country's independence, which should concern all our people. Our people are not ready to give up the cherished policies endorsed by a majority of our society because they see that the republic's neither East nor West policy (?ensures) the independence of the country. All these events in the government are watched by the people. They judge them. The goal that we can place before the people is that we should adhere to the same slogans that the people have raised throughout the revolution and to which they are committed. Under the very same slogans, the people go to the battlefields and because of those slogans they stand before the oppressive powers and are not afraid. They stand tall before the United States and all other powers and remain steadfast. Our people have revived their Islamic pride. We should have policies that underline these values, and we should stand by these objectives.

It is also natural that we should place clear objectives before our specialized and united forces and show them that we have indeed preserved those values. We are making every effort to do this. Beyond that, I do not believe our people will demand more than we can give. The program that I have submitted before the respected and revolutionary members of the Majlis addressed the very same problems. At that time I faced the same question and said that if anybody expected miracles from the government I say we can perform miracles. This miracle was performed by our fighters and our people. Under the imam's (?leadership) these miracles have been major ones which have awed the current history and have generated a new force that has changed the face of the present-day world. And all this was not done by the government, but by our people.

All the capital we have is our effort. Finally we trust the executive branch. This is no small trust either because the executive branch draws strength from the people.

This is what is expected of the people. In fact, we are always embarrassed while expecting anything from the people because we always ask, what have we done for the people? Can we have expectations from the people? In fact, people are working to preserve the revolution. They support our good works. There may be some people who criticize and find fault, [words indistinct], these people have dark conciences. They have little Islamic spirit. However, all these things exist, and these are things that a government may expect from some people. Our imam of the nation has said the people are good. It is for the government to try to remain on the people's good side. Even if it cannot do so, it should at least be thankful for their goodness.

[Correspondent] You have at times refered to the war problem and the participation of the people in the war. It is true that all officials stress certain facts. The people also expect to be told whether there will be any special changes in the policy of sending men to the battlefields in the near future. Can you shed light on this matter in your capacity as a member of the Supreme Defense Council?

[Musavi] In view of the special circumstances created by the war, the changes in the region, and the distribution within the organization of our enemy, and (?despite the furor) against us we are convinced today more than ever that if we continue to endure we will be victorious. Their (?friends), our enemy's supporters, are also afraid of our strength. They launch malicious attacks on us. We feel apprehensive in view of world events, the discussions that take place at dubious councils held here and there, and efforts by the reactionary states in service to the United States, which all aim to isolate us from our friends.

In reaction to certain analyses made in specific suspect quarters, we begin to feel that our country is fully capable of achieving victory in this imposed war. This view is further strengthened when more and more material and political backing is given to Iraq. They want to break our resistance. However, our general mobilization and the presence of our people in the field destroys

these plots against us and reveals our people's determination to stand steadfast and strong. However long the war may continue or how much material losses our people suffer, our people and government are aware that this war is very important to us. We cannot just live with a wounded snake like Saddam in this region.

If we want to remain independent and preserve our independent policies in this eventful world and against the fates imposed by super powers on the Third World countries, we must show that we can cut down the aggressor in this region once and for all. If we fail to do this we will be (?criticized). As I have said on previous occasions, we will be carried away by superpower intrigues and will find ourselves driven toward the East or West. Therefore, this war is very important. We think that the general mobilization that has begun under the name of Karvan-e Karbala and which is now running full strength has not only helped our fighting forces to pursue their goals at the battlefields, but this national movement has also helped to preserve our achievements. We hope that God will crown this national movement with success, as he has been doing in the past.

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Says Gulf States 'Trust' Iran
LD190056 Tehran IRNA in English 1851 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18 IRNA — Tehran's evening daily *ETTE-LA'AT* Monday quoted Majlis Speaker Hoj. Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani as having said to the London-based Arabic weekly *AL-AALAM* that the Islamic Republic has consistently pursued a policy of cooperation with the Persian Gulf states so that they could maintain their existence free of the worry of instability to their governments.

The Majlis speaker told *AL-AALAM* that "the Persian Gulf littoral states trust Iran because they know well that Iran has not harmed them although it has been capable of doing so."

He said these countries could neither predict the outcome of the five-year-old Iraqi-imposed war, nor did they suppose that an independent country such as Iran could overcome the conspiracies of colonial powers. Neo-colonialist powers, Rafsanjani said, have tried to push the Persian Gulf countries into the trap of the Iraqi-imposed war, but, he pointed out, participation in a war against Iran will not be left unanswered. He also noted that the Islamic Republic, however, has not lost its temper yet. The Persian Gulf Cooperation Council in its recent meet in Muscat, Oman called for better ties with Iran while refusing to support the Iraqi regime, the Majlis speaker said.

Rafsanjani further said "We have believed all along that the countries supporting Iraq will change their policies and give up their support when they lose hope in the Baghdad government."

Rafsanjani, who is also Imam Khomeyni's representative at the Supreme Defence Council (SDC) said that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always been for peaceful coexistence with its neighbours and independence for the Islamic countries.

Foreign Ministry Condemns Geneva Summit Talks
LD181756 Tehran IRNA in English 1733 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — A spokesman for Iran's Foreign Ministry Monday condemned any talks between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. heads of state for determining the fate of the Third World countries.

Referring to the forthcoming Geneva talks between the two superpowers, the spokesman described the meeting as an explicit interference in the internal affairs of other countries by the super-powers.

"It is a blatant violation of international conventions which stipulate respect for the independence and sovereignty of world states," the spokesman said.

He stressed that any decisions taken in this East-West meeting would certainly have no effect on the Islamic Republic of Iran and other revolutionary countries elsewhere because "We adhere to an independent policy."

The revolutionary nations of the Third World, the spokesman concluded, will determine their own fate through strong resistance and full vigilance.

First Round of Talks With Sudan on POW's Open
LD181954 Tehran IRNA in English 1850 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — The first round of talks on repatriation of Sudanese POW's commenced here Monday between the visiting Sudanese delegation and Iran's acting Foreign Minister 'Ali Mohammed Besharati.

In the meeting, the head of the Sudanese delegation, Mustafa Hasan Ahmad, submitted a message to Besharati for the Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati from his counterpart, Ibrahim Taha Ayyub.

The Sudanese official expressed the regret of the new Sudanese Government over the involvement of a group of Sudanese in the Iraq-Iran war under Numayri's rule and condemned his decision to dispatch his country's youth to fight for Iraq in the battlefronts against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The visiting Sudanese official said his government now remains neutral in the Iraq-Iran war but that it will make an effort to defend and support truth in relation with the conflict. Besharati said in response that because the new government in Sudan had earlier announced a policy of neutrality in the Iraq-Iran war, relations between the two countries has been re-established, and the Islamic Government had responded positively to Sudan's request for the release of Sudanese prisoners of war.

The Iranian Foreign Ministry official said Iran expects that Sudan remain neutral in the Iraq-Iran war but uphold truth.

Joint Staff Command Issues Communique No. 2,293

LD181725 Tehran IRNA in English 1646 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — Iranian jet fighters heavily bombarded an Iraqi industrial unit and a concentration center of Iraqi forces in Mosan Province at 07:07 hours local time (03:37 hours GMT) Monday [18 November] inflicting considerable casualties and losses on the enemy. All Iranian war planes returned to their bases safely, the Joint Staff Command of the Armed Forces reported here Monday.

In its Communique Number 2293, the command said that over 20 Iraqi soldiers were killed during artillery exchanges with Iran's Muslim combatants in the western fronts over the past 24 hours.

Exchange of artillery fire continued throughout the fronts on Sunday raging more heavily in Sar Dasht, the northwestern fronts, Sumar and Mehran, the western fronts and in Talaiyeh and Kushk in the southern fronts, the communique said.

Iranian fighters' artillery fire pounded two Iraqi patrol units, one operating in the area overlooking Piranshahr and another in the area overlooking Kani-Sheykh Sunday, inflicting heavy casualties on them and forcing the other patrols to flee, reported the Joint Staff Command.

The Islamic combatants checked and attacked supply and transport operations of Iraqi troops in Chuman-Mostafa and Varaz Heights, in the northwestern fronts and in the highlands of Halaleh, in the southern fronts over the past 24 hours, inflicting casualties and losses on the enemy, the communique reported.

Four houses in Abadan were damaged by Iraq's long-range artillery fire over the past 24 hours according to the military communique.

War Spokesman Denies Iraqis Down F-5 Plane

LD181752 Tehran IRNA in English 1715 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, nov 18, IRNA — Spokesman of the War Information Headquarters (WIH) here Monday [18 November] refuted Baghdad's claim of having shot down one Iranian F-5 fighter bomber over the Iraqi airspace Monday.

The WIH spokesman said that Iran's war planes had successfully pounded one industrial unit and another concentration center of the Iraqi forces in the Iraqi province of Maysan early Monday morning inflicting substantial damages upon the Iraqi forces. He said the Iranian war planes had all returned to their bases safely.

"If the Iranian plane had been really down," said the WIH spokesman, "the Baghdad government could substantiate its claim by showing a film of the hulk of the downed aircraft on the Baghdad Television."

UK Ship Eludes Naval Vessels Near Strait of Hormuz

LD161827 Kuwait KUNA in English 1549 GMT 16 Nov 85

[Excerpt] London, Nov 16 (KUNA) — A British cargo ship was Saturday pursued by two naval vessels in the Gulf which apparently tried to detain it, but the chase was later called off and the ship resumed its journey unharmed, shipping sources said here.

Earlier, it had been reported here that the ship, the 104,850-ton *London Team* had been seized as it was sailing near the Strait of Hormuz at the mouth of the Gulf.

The report, apparently prompted by the spate of similar incidents in the Gulf in recent months, was widely circulated in shipping circles here.

But a spokesman for the ship's managers, the Glasgow-based Denholm Group, told KUNA that the reports were "erroneous", and that the managers were "satisfied there is no problem and everything is ok" on board the vessel.

The spokesman said the reports had apparently been prompted by a radio message sent by the ship's captain when the vessels, believed to belong to the Iranian Navy, began chasing the *London Team*, which was sailing from the Gulf to the U.S. But the company had been in touch with the ship's captain several times since the reported incident, and he had confirmed that it was now sailing along its planned route, the spokesman affirmed. However, details of the mid-sea chase were still unclear. Shipping sources said later the two naval vessels were apparently trying to stop the ship, either to search it or to direct it to a nearby port.

Commander Denies Pursuit

LD182215 Tehran IRNA in English 1810 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Excerpts] Tehran, Nov. 18 IRNA — Commander of the Navy Monday denied claims that two Iranian boats chased the bulk carrier *London Team* this week in the Persian Gulf. Captain Hoseyn Malekzadegan said the "report is pure fabrication. The Iranian Navy does not send boats to seize ships, it sends destroyers".

News agencies had reported that a 104,000-ton ship carrying oil from Saudi Arabia for South Korea was chased briefly by "Iranian rubber dinghies" near the Strait of Hormuz, Saturday. Captain Malekzadegan said the report was a hostile propaganda effort by certain news agencies against the Islamic Republic.

"It is also possible that several fishing boats were in the area and the captain thought he was being chased" he said.

The commander emphasised that there were no military vessels of the Islamic Republic in the region at the time.

The Iranian Navy released tugboat *Western Moon* Thursday after intercepting in early November as it was trying to tow away a damaged tanker. Captain Malekzadegan said another tugboat *Amsterdam* has been in Iranian ports since her seizure. The tugboat was probably on a spying mission in the area, the Navy commander said, adding that documents seized from the ships

indicate that the boats sell information on the situation in the Persian Gulf to passing vessels.

100 Iraqi POW's Scheduled To Be Released

LD190055 Tehran in English to Europe 1930 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Continuing its humanitarian measures concerning the unilateral release of the Iraqi disabled and sick war captives, the Iranian Government will release another 100 Iraqi prisoners of war so that they can return to the cordial atmosphere of their families.

The head of the Iraqi Prisoners' Commission and secretary of the Supreme Defense Council granted an interview to our correspondent today, saying: The Islamic Republic of Iran has thus far unilaterally released over 390 Iraqi war captives on different occasions.

The head of the Iraqi Prisoners' Commission, in connection with the enthusiasm of the Iraqi Muslim prisoners for being dispatched to the warfronts said: The first liberation battalion composed of the Iraqi repentent and (?faithful) war prisoners has been formed and in the future following the preliminary military measures, those who volunteer will be dispatched to the war fronts to fight against the mercenaries of the Baghdad rulers.

Former POW's Demonstrate To Protest Red Cross Policy

LD171503 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] A group of freed Iranian POW's who tolerated great suffering and who, following the steps taken by the Islamic Republic of Iran and public pressure were freed from the dungeons of the Iraqi regime, this morning gathered in front of the International Red Cross office in Tehran. While they condemned the lack of decisiveness by this international organization, they also called for the release of crippled POW's, and the clarification of the fate of thousands of missing Iranians. According to an IRNA report, the freed Iranian POW's, after marching chanting of slogans in condemnation of the United States and Saddam and repeating the slogan: War, war until victory, gathered in front of the Red Cross organization office in Tehran. They read out a declaration and brought their protest demonstration to an end.

At one point the marchers' declaration stated: The International Red Cross, in spite of its claims of a humanitarian and neutral stand, unfortunately has not as yet taken a practical and serious step towards rectifying and bettering the condition of POW's and MIA's. Instead, through pretense and the issuing of biased declarations, the Red Cross has continuously tried to present Saddam and his horrifying regime as humane and peace-loving.

At another point, referring to the statement of the UN delegation that talked of the use of pressure, torture and killings in Iraqi prisons, the declaration added: Unfortunately, this Red Cross organization has not yet undertaken any serious or practical measures in connection with condemning the mercenary Iraqi regime. Because of this we expect this organisation not to collaborate in the offenses and crimes of the puppet Iraqi Government, but to decisively and as soon as possible show through a speedy declaration that it wishes to liberate itself from the yoke of criminal United States, just as UNESCO is doing.

The marchers also called on the Red Cross to renew efforts on the question of the fate of 20,000 missing Iranians. On the basis of this report, the International Red Cross official in charge in Tehran appeared among the marchers, and talked to them, stating: Regretfully, the International Red Cross office in Tehran is active only on behalf of Iraqi POW's, and the only thing we can do is to pass on your reports and your declaration to the Headquarters of the International Red Cross in Geneva. He also admitted that in the secret reports of the Red Cross, cases of torture of Iranian POW's by Iraqis have been recorded.

Freed Iranian POW's Offer To Reenlist

LD182254 Tehran IRNA in English 1709 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 18, IRNA — Freed Iranian POW's Monday announced their readiness to be redespatched to the battlefronts to serve in whatever capacity they were required. In a statement issued here Monday the POW's also called on Muslim combatants to continue the defensive war against the Iraqi Ba'thist invaders until the Iraqi regime is toppled.

Bomb Found During Khamene'i Visit to Yasuj

GF171716 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] According to reports by nationalist sources, during the tour of Yasuj by Islamic President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, a bomb was discovered in the office of the governor general and a group of people were arrested in connection with this incident.

In addition, during Khamene'i's tour of Dogonbadan, a large group of the city's population demonstrated and set two vehicles on fire. The demonstrations were so severe that Khamene'i and his guards hastily left the region.

Radio Iran Reports Attempt on Khamane'i's Life

GF181715 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] *AL-'ARAB* printed in London reported that Khomeyni's President Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i escaped an assassination attempt.

The London-based *AL-'ARAB* which carried the news item, citing informed sources in the Persian Gulf, states: Several armed persons attacked 'Ali Khamene'i's automobile and killed or wounded 17 of his armed guards.

The incident took place when Khomeyni's president and his guards were on their way to the president's office.

Clandestine Notes Musavi Moves Against Montazeri

GF172007 (Clandestine) Radio Iran in Persian 1330 GMT 17 Nov 85

[Text] While Ayatollah Montazeri has shown his unwillingness to approve the new cabinet of Mir Hoseyn Musavi through oblique moves, Mir Hoseyn Musavi, the prime minister, has not made any effort to hide the fact that he is ignoring Ayatollah Montazeri. During his Majlis speech outlining his cabinet's programs, Musavi not only praised Khomeyni but also Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i, Hashemi-Rafsanjani, and Musavi-Ardabili. He did not mention Montazeri at all and implicitly asked Montazeri not to interfere in the affairs of his government. Although he stated that he would welcome all guidance of the opinionated, the proviso was that the government could not be responsible to anyone but the leader of the revolution and the Majlis and would not accept being questioned or investigated by any other source. According to him, any responsibility to other sources is against the constitution and adds massive problems to the administrative system of the country, creates problems in carrying out the affairs of the country, and weakens the rights of the nation.

His statement only mentioned Ayatollah Montazeri once with regard to his efforts to reduce the disagreements between the Shi'ites and the Sunnis. Also, the speech did not pay much attention to the Council of Guardians, even though it is one of the important legislative bodies of the Islamic Republic. Observers attribute this new method by Musavi to a lack of faith in Ayatollah Montazeri by Ayatollah Khomeyni.

3 Executed for Bombing of Friday Prayers Meeting

LD190956 Tehran IRNA in English 0900 GMT 19 Nov 85

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 19, IRNA — Three terrorists, masterminders of the bomb explosion at Tehran's Friday congregational prayers last winter, which martyred five people and injured 10 others, were executed at Evin Prison here monday. The verdict was issued by Tehran's Islamic Revolution Court. Family members of the martyrs were present when the verdicts were carried out.

One of the terrorists, Abu Harizeh, had received sabotage training in Al-Sulaymaniyah, Iraq, and had smuggled an explosive packed blanket into Iran which he later transferred to Tehran University campus, the site of the Friday prayers.

Meanwhile, Abu Bakr Ghafuri, in charge of political wing of the outlawed Kordestan Democratic Party, surrendered to the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps in Bukan, Kordestan Province, Monday. Condemning the KDP and its activities, Ghafuri repented his past actions.

Kuwait Expels 36 Iranians; 1 Expelled From Dubayy

LD181203 Tehran IRNA in English 1056 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Bushehr, Bushehr Prov., Nov. 18, IRNA — The Kuwait Government expelled 36 other Iranian workers residing in Kuwait, during the past few days. Most of those expelled had legal resident permits in Kuwait and were kept in detention one to three weeks before their expulsion. The Kuwaiti Government as part of its hostile attitude towards the Islamic Revolution of Iran, has been expelling hundreds of Iranian workers from that country. Meanwhile, an Iranian worker was also expelled from Dubayy.

Successful Afghan Mujahidin Attack in Nimruz Cited

LD181328 Tehran IRNA in English 1114 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Zahedan, Baluchestan va Sistan Prov., Nov. 18, IRNA — The Afghan Muslim mujahidin fighting the Soviet-backed regime of Afghanistan, in an attack on a command post of joint Soviet and government forces, in Chakhmansuz [as received] in Nimruz Province, killed 42 of them, last week.

Reliable Afghan mujahidin sources said here Monday that during the six-hour clash, the mujahidin seized one mortar launcher and a number of other weapons. They also destroyed one ammunition depot of the government forces. In another development explosion of a mine planted by mujahidin in Nimruz Province, destroyed one Soviet vehicle, killing all its 20 passengers.

'Hundreds' of Soviet, DRA Troops Killed Early Nov

LD181753 Tehran IRNA in English 1535 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Text] Mashhad, (Khorassan) Prov. Nov. 18, IRNA — Afghan mujahidin have recently killed hundreds of joint Soviet and Afghan Government troops, set fire to 50 tanks, and seized a large haul of military hardware in retaliation for attacks by government forces on 20 residential areas early November. They added that the Soviet and Afghan state forces had used 76 helicopters, 24 war planes and 1500 tanks in pounding Muslim people's quarters.

Kurdish Revolutionaries Kill Iraqi Troops

GF181743 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1330 GMT 18 Nov 85

[From the program "Voice of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq"]

[Text] Muslim Kurdish revolutionaries in the (Zawitah) area have attacked the center of the regime's elements. They killed or wounded several persons and captured large quantities of weapons and equipment. In Sarsang, the Kurdish revolutionaries captured 75 anti-personnel mines, destroyed an enemy center on the Dahuk-Sarsang road, and killed three of the regime's men.

Commentary Views Velayati's Visits To Syria, Libya

LD181318 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1055 GMT 18 Nov 85

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Yesterday, our country's minister of foreign affairs — who left Tehran earlier this week to visit Syria, Libya and Algeria — arrived in Libya after his 24-hour visit to and talks in Damascus.

During his trip to Syria, Mr Velayati talked with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, Syrian vice president, and with Faruq al-Shar', Syria's foreign minister. Mr Velayati also met Hafiz al-Asad, to whom he handed a message from Mr Khamene'i. During their 3-hour meeting, which was conducted in an atmosphere of understanding, Mr Velayati commented on the situation on the war fronts, and stated that popular forces are leaving for the fronts in order to prepare the grounds for toppling Saddam. The Syrian president praised the policies of the Islamic Republic of Iran, stressing the friendly relations between the two countries and elaborating on the issues of the region, about which he said that Syria opposes Egypt's return to the Arab fold as the regime has relations with the Zionist regime, which Syria considers to be its enemy.

The Syrian president also commented on this country's stance in connection with the Iraqi regime, saying that Syria has no common interests with the Iraqi regime and, considering the overwhelming conflicts of interest, there is no way to reconcile the two countries. He also said that the regime ruling Iraq had peaceful relations with the shah's regime — which was subservient to imperialism and Zionism — yet this regime is hostile toward revolutionary Iran, and this is not right. At the end of their meeting the need for holding a conference in Libya with the participation of foreign ministers of Iran, Syria and Libya was confirmed.

Our country's foreign minister and his accompanying delegation were welcomed by Libyan officials on their arrival in that country. Mr Velayati, in an interview, once again stressed the Islamic Republic of Iran's support for the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah against every conspiracy. He said: We consider Libya to be a strong fortification against imperialism in this sensitive region of the world, just as the Islamic Republic is a strong fortification against imperialism in the sensitive Middle East region.

Mr Velayati added: In view of the revolutionary stances of the two countries, those countries whose interests are threatened by revolutionary governments and our enemies would, predictably, conspire against us. But under the present circumstances, when imperialist countries, led by the arch Satan are actively trying to use all the facilities at their disposal in order to (?oppress) Muslim nations and secure their oppressive unjust interests, it is the duty of all progressive and revolutionary nations and governments to consolidate their anti-Zionist and anti-imperialist bonds, to ceaselessly fight against oppressive conspiracies, to prepare the ground for uprooting oppression and crime, and to restore the justified rights of nations, particularly the long-suffering people of Palestine.

Restoring uniformity and unity will only be possible in a situation where exchanges of opinions and ideas, and a common review of the policies of world arrogance in connection with the developments in the region, are constantly carried out. Relying on the basic principle of hostility toward Zionism and imperialism, practical cooperation should be increased as much as possible. This is the only way that the unjust policies of world arrogance will be defeated.

Soviet Inroads in Gulf Region Viewed as Marginal

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[From "Behind the News" program]

[Text] Dear listeners, the UAE has become the third Gulf country, after Kuwait and Oman, to establish diplomatic relations with the USSR. In the following review we deal with this issue:

Tsarist aspirations concerning the Gulf region did not change in the era of the socialist October Revolution. Soviet policy adhered to the same aspirations concerning the Gulf region, its warm waters, and its strategic oil resources and the huge reserve that the region has in this respect. When the Red Army invaded Afghan territory in 1979, Moscow covered another section of the way to the region with the hope of extending it in the future, either from Afghanistan or perhaps from other bases.

Amid this ambition, it appears logical to wonder about the direction of the present Soviet policy in the Gulf region. The establishment of diplomatic relations between Moscow and some countries in the region have led to rumors that there is the possibility of establishing diplomatic relations between Moscow and Riyadh following similar steps by Muscat and Abu Dhabi.

Is this development an intrinsic Soviet advance at the expense of the influence of other powers in the region, or is it a part of a calculated regional and international detente? Or is it participation in dealing with the events and developments of the region and future possibilities? First, it must be said that Washington is doubtlessly in the picture and background of these developments, since the U.S. monopoly of influence, in any case, leaves no room for Soviet infiltration. Hence it can be said that Washington has been part of the decision, while differing with regard to determining the backgrounds and dimensions of this new trend.

Concerning the Afghan crisis, there might be some kind of new formula on the Soviet presence in Afghanistan in return for some marginal concessions, such as the establishment of diplomatic relations. Or perhaps within this trend there is a tacit agreement between Washington and Moscow to defend the region vis-a-vis a third party that threatens the interests of both sides, particularly in light of the Islamic-Ba'thist war and its future possibilities.

In any case, Soviet presence in the region will be no more than a formal, marginal, and official one regardless of how extensive the circle of diplomatic relations becomes, since these relations will continue to be governed by the controls of U.S. influence.